

For Immediate Release
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Convicted Killer Denied Contact With His Children

Order of Protection Lasts Until 2080

Judge Joseph Valentino ruled that the man convicted of killing his wife and young daughter in 2005, may not have any contact with the two surviving children for at least 69 years.

David Zacher was given two life sentences for the stabbing deaths of his wife, Karelin, and four-year old daughter Halle. Zacher also stabbed and seriously wounded his two-year old daughter Libby, who survived. He let his seven-year old son, Tyler, flee before the attacks.

Zacher believed he had the right to talk with the surviving children by phone or email, even though his parental rights were removed in 2007.

Zacher's attorney said Judge Valentino did not have the authority to extend the five-year old order of protection he gave Zacher in 2006. It was set to expire next month..

But Valentino ruled he did have the authority and extended the order of protection until 2080.

Assistant District Attorney Doug Randall who prosecuted the Zacher case, brought the extended order of protection application to court for Zacher to sign. But Zacher and his attorney refused. They continue to appeal this decision and the murder conviction.

Maternal grandmother, Joann Hallen, adopted Tyler and Libby. Their aunt, Stephanie Hallen, reacted to the judge's decision. "We are very relieved. The children do not want anything to do with their father," Hallen said.

Randall said, "It's sad to make the family relive this tragedy. But it's important to get this order extended to protect the children."